

Mr. Huskisson was still unwell. The speaker of the House of Commons, was suddenly taken ill on the 22nd inst., and presiding in his place the House adjourned.

Letters state that a change of Ministry is about to take place. Mr. Canning took Premier and remain in the Commons. Mr. Robinson to be Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and go to the Lords.

Affairs in Portugal are not quite settled; it was reported that the rebels had taken possession of Oporto, but it is not positively ascertained. War is not expected. Some serious fears were felt in the matter of the future of the subject of an additional duty on wool.

It is said that the Duke of Wellington, as his family, from parliamentary grants, from offices in church and state, will receive an income from the country of not much short of one hundred thousand pounds sterling per annum!

In consequence of the death of the Duke of Argyll, the Duke of Clarence becomes his heir. The Duke of Clarence, the younger of the Exchequer moved in the Commons, an addition of 500*l.* a year to his income. It was opposed on the ground of the distresses of the country. Votes were, 167 for and 65 against the grant.

The alarming illness of Lord Liverpool, (and the indisposition of Mr. Canning) have greatly impeded the public business. The Courier (which speaks from authority) says that the illness of the Duke of Clarence, the resumption of his duties as Prime Minister cannot be expected. A total cessation from all mental exertion will be necessary. The attack is, so far as we can learn, paralytic, and has affected the patient's intellects.

The late Mr. Ellisby, a distinguished surgeon, who lately died in London, bequeathed his body to an anatomical school for dissection, as a last tribute to the science in which he delighted. The Doctor, to whom he regretted that he contributed so little.

Mr. Audubon, of Liverpool, is about to publish a Natural History of the Birds of North America, in the form of letters, to be accompanied by an elegant collection of drawings. He has devoted twenty-two years of his life to this subject.

A stage coachman in England was recently fined five pounds for putting a female passenger into the inside, without the consent of the inside passengers.

A London paper relates an instance of wickedness, arising from the "accursed thirst of gold," which perhaps has never been witnessed. It was the case of a girl who was about to be married, and resolved on poisoning her father and mother, with her five children, in order to possess herself of their property. Accordingly she infused into their drink at dinner (buttermilk) the deadly mixture, of which her parents and their children partook. The account states that the children luckily escaped, but the wretched mother, having drunk largely of the milk, was lingering in deadly agony. Even while she was writhing under the effects of this poison, and parched with a deadly thirst, her third-offspring gave her, to quench her thirst, which she made with the poisoned buttermilk. The girl subsequently confessed her guilt.

The Larch Tree.—A late English paper mentions the arrival at Leith of the brig *Betsy*, from Drontheim, with a cargo of larch timber. This vessel is said to be the identical one, which was built by the English, and which was on board the yacht, that brought over King William to England, 137 years ago. The number of the vessel is the 4000. The larch, or, as it is called, the *Scots pine*, is a tree which has been in the country where it was planted more than two centuries since, and where some fine specimens of it are now growing, *hachmetach*. It is the most durable timber ever made use of in the construction of vessels.

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